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## We Claim:

1. A method of constructing a model generating one or more job performance criteria predictors based on input pre-hire information, the method comprising:

from a plurality of applicants, electronically collecting pre-hire information from the applicants;

collecting post-hire information for the applicants based on job performance of the applicants after hire; and

from the pre-hire information and the post-hire information, generating an artificial intelligence-based predictive model operable to generate one or more job performance criteria predictors based on input pre-hire information from new applicants.

- 2. A computer-readable medium comprising computer-executable instructions for performing the method of claim 1.
- 15 3. The method of claim 1 further comprising:
  limiting the applicants for the model to those from a particular geographic area;
  and
  constructing the model as a geographically-specialized model.
- 4. The method of claim 1 further comprising:
  limiting the applicants for the model to those with a particular educational level;
  and
  constructing the model as an educational level-specialized model.
- The method of claim 1 further comprising:limiting the applicants for the model to those with a particular occupation; and constructing the model as an occupationally-specialized model.

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6. The method of claim 1 wherein the model accepts one or more inputs, the method further comprising:

identifying in the pre-hire information one or more characteristics that are ineffective predictors; and

omitting the ineffective predictors as inputs to the model.

7. The method of claim 1 wherein the pre-hire information comprises one or more characteristics, the method further comprising:

identifying in the pre-hire information one or more characteristics that are ineffective predictors; and

providing an indication that the characteristics no longer need to be collected.

8. The method of claim 1 wherein job performance criteria predictors comprise a predictor indicating whether a job candidate will be voluntarily terminated.

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- 9. The method of claim 1 wherein job performance criteria predictors comprise a predictor indicating whether a job candidate will be eligible for rehire after termination.
- 20 10. The method of claim 1 wherein the pre-hire information comprises one or more characteristics, the method further comprising:

identifying in the pre-hire information one or more characteristics that are ineffective predictors; and

responsive to identifying the ineffective predictors, collecting new pre-hire information not including the ineffective predictors; and

building a refined model based on the new pre-hire information.

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## 11. The method of claim 10 further comprising:

adding one or more new characteristics to be collected when collecting the new pre-hire information.

- 5 12. The method of claim 11 further comprising: evaluating the effectiveness of the new characteristics.
  - 13. A method of constructing a model predicting employment performance based on a set of input employment parameters, the method comprising:

selecting a set of input parameters indicating pre-hire characteristics of an employee, wherein the pre-hire characteristics are available before hiring the employee and are collected electronically from the employee;

selecting a set of output parameters indicating post-hire outcomes available after hiring the employee; and

training a neural network with the input and output parameters.

14. The method of claim 13 further comprising:

choosing a set of one or more candidate characteristics, wherein the characteristics indicate data available before hiring an employee;

testing effectiveness of the candidate characteristics in predicting the post-hire characteristics; and

responsive to determining the candidate information is effective, incorporating the candidate information into the model.

- 15. A method for constructing an artificial intelligence-based employment selection process based on pre-hire information comprising personal employee characteristics and post-hire information comprising employee job performance observation information, the method comprising:
- generating a plurality of predictive artificial intelligence models based on the prehire and post-hire information, wherein at least two of the artificial intelligence models are of different types;

testing effectiveness of the models to select an effective model; and applying the effective model to predict post-hire information not yet observed.

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- 16. The method of claim 15 wherein at least one of the models is a neural network.
- 17. The method of claim 16 wherein at least one of the models is an expert system.
  - 18. The method of claim 15 wherein at least one of the models is a fuzzy logic system.
- 20 19. The method of claim 15 wherein at least one of the models is an information theoretic model.
  - 20. The method of claim 15 wherein at least one of the models is a neuro-fuzzy model.

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21. The method of claim 15 further comprising: identifying at least one of the models as exhibiting impermissible bias; and avoiding use of the models exhibiting impermissible bias.

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- 22. The method of claim 21 wherein the impermissible bias is against a protected group of persons.
- 23. A computer-implemented method of refining an artificial-intelligence
   5 based employee performance selection system, the method comprising:

collecting information via an electronic device presenting a set of questions to employment candidates, wherein the questions are stored in a computer-readable medium;

testing effectiveness of at least one of the questions in predicting the post-hire information; and

responsive to determining the question is ineffective, deleting the question from the computer-readable medium.

- 24. The method of claim 23 wherein effectiveness comprises predictiveness tested based on information theoretic techniques.
- 25. A computer-readable medium comprising a predictive model, the model comprising:

inputs for accepting one or more characteristics based on pre-hire information for a job applicant;

one or more predictive outputs indicating one or more predicted job effectiveness criteria based on the inputs,

wherein the predictive model is an artificial intelligence-based model constructed from pre-hire data electronically collected from a plurality of employees and post-hire data, and the model generates its predictive outputs based on the similarity of the inputs to pre-hire data collected for the plurality of employees and their respective post-hire data.

26. The computer-readable medium of claim 25 wherein the predictive model comprises a predictive output indicating a rank for the job applicant.

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- 27. The computer-readable medium of claim 26 wherein the rank is relative to other applicants.
- 28. The computer-readable medium of claim 26 wherein the rank is relative to the plurality of employees.
  - 29. The computer-readable medium of claim 25 wherein the predictive model comprises a predictive output indicating probability of group membership for the job applicant.
  - 30. The computer-readable medium of claim 25 wherein the predictive model comprises a predictive output indicating predicted tenure for the job applicant.
  - 31. The computer-readable medium of claim 25 wherein the predictive model comprises a predictive output indicating predicted tenure for the job applicant.
    - 32. The computer-readable medium of claim 25 wherein the predictive model comprises a predictive output indicating predicted number of accidents for the job applicant.
    - 33. The computer-readable medium of claim 25 wherein the predictive model comprises a predictive output indicating whether the applicant will be involuntarily terminated.
- 25 34. The computer-readable medium of claim 25 wherein the predictive model comprises a predictive output indicating whether the applicant will be eligible for rehire after termination.

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35. A computer-readable medium comprising a refined predictive model, the model comprising:

inputs for accepting one or more characteristics based on pre-hire information for a job applicant;

one or more predictive outputs indicating one or more predicted job effectiveness criteria based on the inputs,

wherein the predictive model is constructed from pre-hire data electronically collected from a plurality of employees and post-hire data, wherein the pre-hire data is based on a question set refined by having identified and removed one or more questions as ineffective.

- 36. The computer-readable medium of claim 35 wherein the ineffective questions are identified via an information transfer technique.
- 37. The computer-readable medium of claim 35 wherein the model is an artificial intelligence-based model.